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Tibet, and no opening likely to lead to it should, I think, be neglected."

Colonel YULE said the first time he ever heard of these missionaries was about ten years ago, when he was in Calcutta connected with the Asiatic Society of Bengal. A letter was then received from Sir Bartle Frere, enclosing one from the Vicar Apostolic of Tibet, the head of these missions, to the French Bishop at Rangoon. Previous to that no one in Calcutta knew there were any Europeans or missionaries in that *terra incognita* lying between the Yang-tsze-kiang and Assam. The letter described the position of Bungay, and conveyed a good deal of miscellaneous information about the rivers coming down to the eastward of Assam. Great difficulty was found in connecting the ascertained Indian geography up to the Assam frontier with what was mentioned in the letter; but it happened that in 1854 two French priests attempted to make their way from Sudiya to their brethren at Bungay. They stopped within the Tibetan territory to learn something of the language, but were both murdered by a chief, who was himself afterwards caught by Captain Doulton and hanged. They were murdered at a village called Samay. That place, though it had not been visited by Europeans, was marked on Captain Wilcox's map, which he made in 1826 or 1827, at the end of the first Burmese war. Samay was known to the Bishop who wrote from Bungay. However improbable it might seem to symmetrical geographers, there were three or four great rivers rising in the plateau of Tibet and running down parallel to one another, and within a narrow belt of country not more than 80 or 100 miles in extent, separately to the sea, those rivers being the Irrawady, the Cambodia, the Salween, and the Yang-tsze. The letter mentioned two other rivers, one of which the Bishop identified as the Schwaley, which entered the Irrawady, and the other was the river on which stood the village of Samay, which was known to be the eastern branch of the Brahmaputra. This seemed to identify the Sanpo with the Brahmaputra, which probably came from the north instead of from the east, as modern maps represented.

Sir H. RAWLINSON said, last year Mr. Cooper, who was the only Englishman that had ever been on the Chinese-Tibetan frontier, wrote that he was doubtful, with all his information, whether the Sanpo really was the Brahmaputra, or was the head-stream of the Irrawady. He himself thought the Sanpo must positively be the Brahmaputra, but the river had never been followed from Lhasa to Sudiya.

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#### *Eleventh Meeting, April 25th, 1870.*

SIR RODERICK I. MURCHISON, BART, K.C.B., PRESIDENT, in  
the Chair.

ELECTIONS.—*Thomas M. Blackie, Esq.; Evelyn Baring, Esq., Lieut.-R.A.; Colonel Shuckburgh Denniss; George B. Hudson, Esq.; Lord Lawrence, G.C.B., &c.; John Fenton Taylor, Esq.*

ACCESSIONS TO THE LIBRARY FROM 11TH TO 25TH APRIL.—'Map and Notes of the Lake Region of Eastern Africa:' showing the Sources of the Nile recently discovered by Dr. Livingstone. By Keith Johnston, Jun. 1870. Donor the author. 'Wild Life among the

Koords.' By F. Millingen. 1870. Donor the author. 'Scenes and Studies.' By J. W. Clayton. 1870. Donor the author. 'Description Physique et Naturelle de L'Ile de Crète.' Par V. Raulin. Vol. 2. Paris, 1869. Purchased. 'Ocean Currents.' By James Croll. 1870. Donor the author. 'Le Phénomène du Flot Courant.' Rome, 1869. 'Carta de Cristobal Colon, enviada de Lisboa a Barcelona en Marzo de 1493, &c.' Por el Seudonimo de Valencia. Vienna, 1869. Donor the author. 'Sull Importanza d'un Manoscritto inedito, &c., la prima isola scoperta dal Colombo.' F. A. de Varnhagen. Vienna, 1869. Donor the author. 'La verdadera Guanahani de Colon.' F. A. de Varnhagen. Santiago. 1864. Donor the author. 'Das Wahre Guanahani des Columbus.' Von F. A. de Varnhagen. Uebersetzung von \*. Wien, 1869. Donor the author. 'Voyage of a French Officer to the Isle of Mauritius.' 1775. By John Parish. 'Cox's Voyage to Teneriffe, &c.' 1791. By George Mortimer. 'Travels in North America.' 1791. By T. Longs. 'Voyage to California.' 1778. By Chappe d'Auteroche. 'Review of Chappe d'Auteroche's Journey into Siberia in 1761.' 1772. 'Voyages of the Portuguese and Spaniards during the 15th and 16th centuries.' P. de Charlevoix, Voyage to North America' (*translated*). 1761. 'Marine Treaties from 1546 to 1763.' 1779. 'Voyage Round the World.' 1757. By G. Shelvoeke. 'Account of Discoveries in the South Pacific Ocean previous to 1764.' 'Account of the New Northern Archipelago in the Seas of Kamtschatka.' 1774. By J. Von Stoecklin. 'Terra Australis Cognita.' By J. Callander. 3 vols. 'Voyage to Madagascar.' By the Abbé Rochon. 'A Memoir of the China Trade.' 1792. All the above the donation of Charles Enderby, Esq. 'Report on the Suez Canal.' By Captain Richards and Lieut.-Colonel Clarke. Feb. 1870. Donor Captain Richards. 'Reisen in Ost-Afrika.' By Baron C. C. von der Decken. 3rd vol. 1869. Purchased. 'Thermochemiske Undersogelser over Affinitets, &c.' By Julius Thomsen. Kjobenhaven, 1870. Donor the author. 'Om Endringen af integraler af irrationale Differentialen, &c.' By Adolph Steen. Kjobenhaven, 1870. Donor the author.

ACCESSIONS TO THE MAP-ROOM SINCE THE LAST MEETING OF APRIL 11TH.—A Map of South Africa, showing the explorations of Dr. Livingstone from 1840 to 1869. A Map of Central Africa, showing the Explorations of Portuguese travellers and Dr. Livingstone. Chart of Nova Zembla, showing the track of Captain E. H. Johansen in 1869. Presented by the author, Dr. A. Petermann.

The following papers were read :—